

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY S:LSEAGLEBURGER:ML  
APPROVED BY S - MR. EAGLEBURGER  
S/S :LCJOHNSTONE

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EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, IS  
SUBJECT: ISRAELI BOOK  
REFERENCE: SECTO 01131

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM EAGLEBURGER

1. I HAVE CALLED DINITZ AND GONE THROUGH IN DETAIL WITH  
HIM THE POINTS RAISED IN REFTEL. HIS RESPONSE WAS AS  
FOLLOWS:

(A) THE TIME ARTICLE WAS WRITTEN BY THEIR CORRESPONDENT  
IN ISRAEL (MARLAN LEVIN) WHO IS LESS THAN WELL CONNECTED  
IN ISRAEL. IT IS AN ARTICLE FULL OF DIRT, OF LITTLE RELE-  
VANCE AND, BECAUSE IT INDICATES THAT DINITZ MAY BE ONE OF  
THE SOURCES OF THE LEAK, PERSONALLY VERY HARMFUL TO HIM.  
GOLAN, THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK, IS DINITZ' ARCH ENEMY AND  
HAS ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION CALLED FOR SIMCHA'S  
RESIGNATION.

(B) SOME OF THE THINGS CONTAINED IN THE TIME ARTICLE ARE  
DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSED TO POSITIONS YOU TOOK AND HE  
(SIMCHA) KNOWS IT. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU HAVE ALWAYS SAID THAT  
ASAD IS MORE RELIABLE THAN SADAT. WHILE ADMITTING THAT IT  
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IS MORE DIFFICULT TO GET HIM TO MAKE AN AGREEMENT, YOU HAVE

SAID THAT HE WOULD STICK WITH THAT AGREEMENT MORE SOLIDLY THAN SADAT. IN ADDITION THE TIME ARTICLE CONTAINS THINGS WHICH DINITZ KNOWS YOU NEVER SAID.

(C) THE GOI HAS INDICATED TO YOU BEFORE ITS DEEP EMBARRASSMENT OVER THE FACT OF THE BOOK'S EXISTENCE AND HAS APOLOGIZED FOR WHATEVER LEAKS MAY HAVE OCCURRED. YOU SHOULD NOT BE "ANGRY" WITH THE GOI SINCE IT IS AS EMBARRASSED AS YOU.

(D) THE GOI IS WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IT CAN TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION, BUT DINITZ ASKS IF YOU HAVE ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON WHAT ACTIONS MAY BE TAKEN. THEY ARE PREPARED, FOR EXAMPLE TO STATE THAT THE POINTS MADE IN THE TIME ARTICLE ARE UNTRUE IF THAT IS WHAT YOU WOULD DESIRE. SIMCHA POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT IF THE GOI DOES THIS, IT WILL SIMPLY SERVE TO DIGNIFY A DIRTY STORY AND A DIRTY BOOK AND GET US INTO THE POSITION OF CONSTANT COMMENT IF AND WHEN OTHER ITEMS LEAK OUT. AS DINITZ HAD ALREADY INDICATED, THE GOI IS ALSO PREPARED TO SUPPORT ANY DENIALS YOU MAY DECIDE TO MAKE. IN SHORT, DINITZ WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO MAKE SOME SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS TO THE GOI ON WHAT MIGHT BE DONE.

(E) DINITZ ALSO WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE PERSONALLY HAD PROTESTED IN THE STRONGEST TERMS TO SCHECTER BOTH OVER THE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO DINITZ AND IN THE BROADER SENSE OVER THE LEAKS AGAINST YOU.

(F) WHILE DINITZ SAID HE WOULD PASS ON TO HIS GOVERNMENT THE POINTS MADE IN PARAGRAPH TWO OF REFTEL, HE WANTED PERSONALLY TO TAKE EXCEPTION TO THOSE POINTS SINCE THEY IMPLIED THAT THE GOI WAS INVOLVED IN PUSHING THE LEAKS. THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT HAS DONE EVERYTHING IT CAN TO QUASH THE BOOK AND STORIES DERIVING THEREFROM.

2. I TOLD SIMCHA THAT I WOULD PASS THE ABOVE TO YOU BUT REEMPHASIZED AGAIN THAT I HAD BEEN ASKED TO HAVE A REPORT BY TOMORROW MORNING ON EXACTLY WHAT THE GOI INTENDS TO DO ABOUT THE AFFAIR. SIMCHA PROMISED TO COMMUNICATE IMMEDIATELY WITH JERUSALEM AND SAID HE HOPED TO HAVE THE SECRET

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REPLY BY TOMORROW MORNING. HE SAID THAT HE WAS SURE THAT IF THE PRIME MINISTER HAD ANY IDEAS ON WHAT THE GOI COULD NOW DO, HE WOULD PROVIDE THOSE TO DINITZ IMMEDIATELY.

3. COMMENT: I DO KNOW THAT SIMCHA HAS PERSONALLY PROTESTED TO SCHECTER BECAUSE JERRY CALLED ME AND TOLD ME SO A DAY OR SO AGO. AS TO THE ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE TIME ARTICLE, I MUST CONFESS THAT I THOUGHT I HAD FOREWARNED

YOU IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION I HAD WITH YOU LAST FRIDAY. AT THAT TIME YOU WILL RECALL I INDICATED THAT SCHECTER HAD TOLD ME ABOUT:

(A) THE REFERENCE TO BREZHNEV "SPOUTING" THE COMMUNIST LINE IN A MEETING WITH YOU AND THEN ASKING THE STENOGRAPHER TO LEAVE.

(B) THE ARRANGEMENT OF CEASEFIRE TERMS IN MOSCOW WITHOUT INFORMING GOLDA MEIR, AND YOUR COMMENT ABOUT A BREAKDOWN IN COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PLANE;

(C) YOUR PREDICTION TO MEIR THAT SADAT WOULD NEVER ACCEPT DIRECT TALKS AT KILOMETER 101;

(D) YOUR REMARK THAT EBAN COULDN'T GET INTO AN ELEVATOR WITHOUT HOLDING A PRESS CONFERENCE.

4. SCHECTER DID NOT TELL ME ABOUT:

(A) THE COMMENT AGAINST SCHLESINGER;

(B) THE CHARGE THAT YOU PROMISED SADAT THAT THE EGYPTIAN THIRD ARMY WOULD BE GIVEN CONTROL OF AN ACCESS ROAD.

5. IF I AM ANY JUDGE, DINITZ, AT LEAST, IS EXTREMELY EMBARRASSED ABOUT THIS WHOLE AFFAIR. HE HAS CONSISTENTLY APOLOGIZED EVERY TIME I HAVE RAISED THE MATTER AND MADE NO ATTEMPT TO COUNTERATTACK. I ALSO BELIEVE HIM TO BE MORE THAN A LITTLE UPSET BY THE TIME CHARGE THAT HE MAY BE THE SOURCE OF THE LEAKS. END COMMENT

6. ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, DINITZ TOLD ME THAT HE HAD CONVEYED SECRET

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TO HIS GOVERNMENT "METICULOUSLY" THE CONTENT OF YOUR PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH HIM PRIOR TO YOUR DEPARTURE (IN WHICH YOU, ACCORDING TO DINITZ, "PUSHED FOR SOMETHING CONCRETE" FOR SADAT). DINITZ WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE HAD TODAY RECEIVED A CABLE FROM ISRAEL WHICH INSTRUCTS HIM TO SEEK AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOU TO DELIVER THE GOI'S RESPONSE. SIMCHA SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE RESPONSE HE HAS BEEN ASKED TO GIVE DOES NOT REPEAT NOT CONTAIN ANY "CONCRETE" PROPOSALS. DINITZ SAYS THE MESSAGE DOES SAY THAT IF THE GOE WILL RECONSIDER SOME OF ITS POSITIONS, THEN THE GOI WILL DO THE SAME, "OUTSIDE THE FRAMEWORK OF NONBELLIGERENCY." IN OTHER WORDS, IF THE EGYPTIANS WILL INDICATE TO YOU ANY WILLINGNESS TO IMPROVE THEIR OWN POSITION ON NONRESORT TO FORCE, THEN THE GOI WILL BE PREPARED TO RECONSIDER ITS POSITION LOOKING TOWARD AN AGREEMENT NOT REPEAT NOT BASED

ON NONBELLIGERENCY.        - - -

THE MESSAGE, ACCORDING TO DINITZ, ASKS FOR YOUR UNDER-  
STANDING ON WHY RABIN DOES NOT FEEL HE CAN RECONVENE THE  
CABINET WITHOUT SOME INDICATION OF A WILLINGNESS TO CHANGE  
ON EGYPT'S SIDE.

DINITZ ASKED FOR MY PERSONAL ADVICE ON WHETHER, UNDER  
THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE SHOULD, IN FACT, SEEK AN APPOINT-  
MENT WITH YOU. HE REALIZES THAT YOUR TIME THIS WEEK END  
WILL BE EXTREMELY SHORT AND HE DOES NOT WANT TO IMPOSE UPON  
YOU IN THE ABSENCE OF SOMETHING MORE CONCRETE. WITH THAT  
SAID, SIMCHA BELIEVES THAT THE GOI RESPONSE IS MORE  
FORTHCOMING THAN IT MAY APPEAR ON ITS SURFACE, ALTHOUGH  
FALLING SHORT OF WHAT YOU HAD ASKED FOR.

I PROMISED SIMCHA THAT I WOULD THINK ABOUT THE QUESTION  
OVERNIGHT; I ALSO PROMISED HIM THAT I WOULD NOT PASS  
ON THE ABOVE INFORMATION TO YOU.

DO YOU WANT ME TO ARRANGE A 30-MINUTE MEETING WITH DINITZ  
SOMETIME THIS WEEK END OR WOULD YOU PREFER THAT I ASK HIM  
TO DELIVER THE MESSAGE TO ME SO THAT I MAY PASS IT ON TO  
YOU?   INGERSOLL

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